

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08

NRC-05 OES-06 ERDA-05 /115 W

-----182041Z 097393 /46

R 180021Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 962

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 3348

EO 11652 : N/A

TAGS : PARM SHUM UR MX

SUBJ : VISITING SOVIET DELEGATION ON TREATY OF TLATELOLCO AND
HUMAN RIGHTS

1. THE ANNUAL MEXICAN-SOVIET INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING IN MEXICO CITY MARCH 15 BEGAN WITH MEXICAN HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA CALLING ON HIS SOVIET COUNTERPARTS TO URGE THEIR GOVERNMENT'S ADHERENCE TO PROTOCOL II OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO. CHIEF SOVIET REP SLEXEI FEDOSEEVICH VATCHENKO RESPONDED IN GENERAL TERMS STATING THAT THE USSR SUPPORTED THE CONCEPT OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON FREE ZONES SUCH AS THAT CREATED BY THE TREATY AND STRESSED THAT MEXICAN AND SOVIET POSITIONS ON PEACE AND DISARMAMENT "COINCIDE".

2. IN A SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE SOVIET AMBASSADOR VOLSKI COMMENTED SPECIFICALLY ON PROTOCOL II STATING THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD SIGN WHEN "ALL STATES AND ALL NUCLEAR POWERS" SIGN. VOLSKI REITERATED MOSCOW'S OBJECTIONS TO THE TREATY - 1) "ESCAPE CLAUSES" WHICH PERMIT TRANSIT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE TERRITORIES OF THE SIGNATORIES AND 2) THE EXCLUSION FROM THE TREATY (BY US NON-SIGNATURE OF
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PROTOCOL I) OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, PUERTO RICO AND GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE. HE ADDED THAT THE USSR CONTINUES TO RESPECT THE NON-NUCLEAR STATUS OF MEXICO AND THAT THE USSR HAS PROMISED NOT TO TRANSPORT NUCLEAR WEAPONS THROUGH MEXICAN TERRITORY AND NOT TO CARRY OUT MILITARY STUDIES OF MEXICO.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTY BORIS IVANOVICH STUKALIN STATED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS "HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO BASIS", THAT THEY ARE "ILL-WILLED AND HOSTILE PROPAGANDA". WHEN ASKED IF CARTER'S "INTERVENTION" WILL PROVOKE A PROBLEM FOR WORLD PEACE, STULAKEN ANSWERED, "WE'LL SEE".

4. COMMENT: IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT THE MEXICAN LEGISLATORS IN THEIR FIRST ADDRESS TO THEIR SOVIET COUNTERPARTS EMPHASIZED SOVIET ADHERENCE TO PROTOCOL II OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO. WE BELIEVE THAT THE US STATEMENT OF FEB 14, THAT WE WILL RESTUDY OUR POSITION ON PROTOCOL I, MAY HAVE ENCOURAGED THE MEXICANS TO MAKE A PUBLIC CALL TO THE SOVIETS ON THIS OCCASION TO ALSO RESTUDY THEIR POSITION. BASED ON INFO PUBLISHED MARCH 17, ON THE AGENDA FOR THE US-MEXICO INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF MAY, WE EXPECT THAT THE MEXICAN LEGISLATORS WILL MAKE A SIMILAR PLEA TO THE US LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION.
THOMPSON

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